IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APR 1 2 2005

In re: Patent Application of

Ernest S. Richards

Serial No.:

09/761,133

Filed: January 16, 2001

For: ELECTRONIC IDENTIFIER

Examiner Syed Zia Group Art Unit: 2131

<u>AMENDMENT</u>

This is in response to the Office Action dated January 26, 2005 in the above-identified application.

Amend03.315 909-1

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reference.

Claims 2-21 add additional subject matter to the method of Claim 1 and clearly by definition patentably distinguish over the Fischer reference.

Claims 23-37 add additional subject matter to Claim 22 and by definition clearly patentably distinguish over the Fischer reference.

The purported addition of U.S. Pat. No. 6,779,024 - DeLaHuerga ("DeLaHuerga") to the Fischer reference does not anticipate nor make obvious Applicant's claimed invention as set forth in Claims 1, 22 and 38. There is no suggestion in either of these references of a motivation to combine the two references. The mere fact that they are both in the computer field is not a sufficient motivation to combine them. Everything in the field of computers is not automatically combinable, otherwise nothing would be patentable. Since the independent Claims 1, 22 and 38 patentably distinguish over the combination of Fischer and DeLaHuerga, the dependent claims, by definition, must also patentably distinguish over the purported combination of these two references.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that this application with Claims 1-38 is allowable over the art of record. An early office action toward that end is earnestly solicited.

If an extension of time is necessary for this Response to be timely filed, Applicant hereby requests an extension of time to make this Response timely filed.

Authorization is hereby given to charge to undersigned's deposit account no. 16-1428 all required fees in connection with the request for extension of time or in connection with any other fees that may be due as a result of the filing of this Response. You are hereby

Amend03.315 909-1 authorized to charge the correct amount of the fee and/or to credit any overpayment to the undersigned's deposit account no. 16-1428. A claim for small entity status has been previously filed in this application.

Respectfully Submitted,

HAEL F. PETOCK, ESQUIRE

Registration No. 26,015

46 The Commons at Valley Forge

1220 Valley Forge Road

P.O. Box 856

Valley Forge, PA 19482-0856

Telephone (610) 935-8600

Pacsimile (610) 933-9300

Attorney for Applicants

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